

MAIN AND BANK STREETS

Telephone 2910

At last when the matter appeared to him ripe he acted. Refusing an offer of \$100,000 for the estate he had made, he was worth on February 4th, 1878, he sent a communication to the Common Council proposing to donate this tract of land to the city on the condition that it should accept and keep the same forever as a public park with the name of Beardsley Park. The Council accepted the offer and the Park Commissioners for a report thereon. On March 4th, 1878, they reported that they had visited the land with the Park Commissioners and found the location and growing woods admirably adapted for a public park, and from the more elevated portion of the land a fine panoramic view of the surrounding country, the city and Long Island Sound was to be had, and recommended acceptance of the gift. On March 25th, 1878, the recommendation. At its meeting on March 25th, 1878, a deed of the same was delivered to the city and the action on the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the heartfelt thanks of the citizens of the city of New York be expressed to the donor, and that the name of Beardsley Park be given to the park, through the City Engineer.

GROVER & LAYMAN, Room 8, Bridgeport Trust Co. Building,
167 STATE ST.

benevolent or charitable use that shall not be sectarian, reformatory or penal, it should have full power to do so. So, and all embracing was his charity.

In the sixteen years since his death, the city has stretched out over the intervening fields and is now at its old size. It is as large or as large as ever. Its population has grown well nigh a hundred thousand. By the introduction of the trolley, everyone in the city can now reach it in a few minutes for five cents, as can most of those in the adjoining towns.

Already all of his generation have sunk into the grave or are tottering on their knees and all who knew him shall shortly follow, yet, today, eighty-nine years after his birth we see the little children of this whole city trooping here, in holiday attire, to do him honor.

This statue is placed at the very entrance of the Park, fronting the long avenue of approach from the city, that we may see and remember that we do do to those who were here, all who come. And in the coming ages, how many these

lute necessity, since all the country round us will then be covered with snow and drifts. The snow will continue for ages. All this was hidden from Deacon Walker as he stood here that day beneath the leafless branches and looked up at the winter sky. But much later the day would find him as he trudged home that night to Stratford through the snow.

He was then forty-seven years old, and his wife was forty-one. As he entered his front door at Stratford, his seven children ran to meet him, among them little Robert, who was to

We were suckled, and which supported this
 good man through his life, become out-
 cast, and the people who will
 teach them the self-same truth from
 which the Litanies of nations sprung
 Here each will learn to say with
 Bryant:
 "My heart is awed within me, where
 I think
 Of the great miracle that still goes on
 In silence, round me,—the perpetual
 work
 Of thy creation, finished, yet renewed
 Forever. Written on thy works I read
 The lesson of thy own eternity."